

Title II, Part D: Enhancing Education through Technology STATEWIDE TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION GRANT – PHASE TWO

GENERAL INFORMATION

The purpose of this Title II, Part D (Enhancing Education Through Technology) competitive grant is to sustain and expand support for the integration of educational technology in Vermont schools as initiated under the original “Statewide Technology Integration Grant” (1/15/05 – 9/30/06). In the first round a group of thirty Vermont educators, after receiving extensive professional development, created a Web-based collection of resources (<http://www.uvm.edu/~vtedtech/>), and collaborated with one another regarding best practices in technology integration. The second round is intended to sustain, grow, and deepen the connections made, resources developed, and integration support provided in the first round, and to extend the impact of the effort more broadly across Vermont schools. Subsequent information in this application will provide detailed background on the original program and participants. The focus of grant applications must be on providing professional development (25% of grant funds MUST be used for professional development), resources, web-based tools, and collaboration opportunities for the entire Vermont community of educators responsible for leading local efforts to integrate technology into curricula. The maximum award under this grant is \$50,000.

TIMELINE FOR TITLE IID GRANT APPLICATIONS	
Application Release	December 5, 2006
Submission Deadline (Received at VT DOE)	January 5, 2007; 4:00PM
Award Announcement	January 12, 2007
Project Implementation	January 12, 2007 – August 31, 2008

ELIGIBILITY

The grant will be awarded to an eligible partnership consisting of at least one high-needs LEA *and* at least one of the following:

- An LEA that can demonstrate that teachers in its schools are effectively integrating technology and proven teaching practices into instruction, based on a review of relevant research, and that the integration results in improvement in classroom instruction and in helping students meet challenging academic standards.
- An institution of higher education that is in full compliance with the reporting requirements of section 207(f) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, and that has not been identified by the State as low-performing under that act.
- A for-profit business or organization that develops, designs, manufactures, or produces technology products or services or has substantial expertise in the application of technology in instruction.
- A public or private nonprofit organization with demonstrated expertise in the application of educational technology in instruction.

For purposes of this competition, a “high-needs local educational agency” is an LEA that:

- Includes one or more schools with the highest numbers or percentages of children from low-income families in the state (using current Census data) *or*
- Serves one or more schools identified for improvement or corrective action under NCLB (§1116), *or*
- Has a substantial need for assistance in acquiring and using technology.

REQUIREMENTS for an LEA to receive funding under this program:

- All schools in the LEA must have a current Educational Technology Plan approved by the Department of Education through June 30, 2007.
- All schools in the LEA must participate in the annual Technology Indicators Data Collection conducted by the Department of Education.
- The LEA must certify that all high-needs schools in the LEA meet requirements under the Children's Internet Protection Act.
- The recipient must use a minimum of twenty-five percent (25%) of these funds for ongoing, sustained, intensive, high-quality professional development in integrating and using advanced technologies in instruction and in new learning environments.

GRANT DESCRIPTION

Purpose: The second round of funding in this program is intended to sustain, grow, and deepen the connections made, resources developed, and integration support provided in the first round which was called the "Statewide Technology Integration Grant" (1/15/05 – 9/30/06). This program will provide short and long-term support for the existing community of technology integration specialists involved with the first grant, and will diversify involvement to include librarians, media specialists, teachers, and administrators who focus on technology integration as a vehicle to support student achievement improvements. It will strengthen and further develop the resources created through the Vermont Commons for Information Technology Educators or VT-CITE (<http://www.uvm.edu/~vtedtech/>), and integrate the original resources and any new ones with Riverdeep Learning Village, a broad resource database supported by the Department of Education. Finally, the grant will broaden the impact of the available resources to more Vermont schools.

Additional Information and Background: The No Child Left Behind Act (Sec. 2402; "Purposes and Goals") identifies technology integration into school curricula as an important goal. Similarly, Vermont schools have emphasized technology integration as the vehicle for students to learn technology skills and improve their academic achievement. Many Vermont supervisory unions, districts, and schools have used Title IID or local funds to hire individuals to act as "technology integration specialists". However, in some cases, the school library/media specialist, a classroom teacher or even an administrator serves in this capacity. In any event, these specialists directly support teachers by modeling lessons, providing embedded professional development, accumulating and distributing appropriate technology and content resources, advising administrators concerning purchases and future developments, and generally serving as the primary resource in a school to support technology integration. The original "Statewide Technology Integration Grant" collected resources and materials, and enabled communication and collaboration among the emerging technology integration community. The grant brought together 30 educators from around Vermont (<http://www.uvm.edu/~vtedtech/node/1163>) for a year of experiences that strengthened their connections, provided a foundation for resource development, and offered significant and appropriate professional development. A planning team representing the partner organizations (<http://www.uvm.edu/~vtedtech/node/1159>) implementing the program met regularly to plan, execute, and review all aspects of the project. An enduring product of the original project is a set of online resources (<http://www.uvm.edu/~vtedtech/indexpage/flexinode-1>) addressing technology

integration with a priority on improved student achievement in content areas. The resources developed are aligned with the Vermont Technology Grade Expectations.

Expectations: Applications must describe, in detail, how efforts through this grant will sustain and build upon the “community” created under the original grant in ways that leverage the expertise of the original thirty participants. Plans to expand active participation in the VT-CITE Learning Community and create connections between VT-CITE and other appropriate organizations (i.e. educational service agencies, Vermont Educational Media Association) should be described. To broaden the reach of the VT-CITE resources a plan to inform educators of its existence is in order. This communication plan should inform and involve the broader educational community in learning about and using the resources and supports available at VT-CITE. With reference to those resources, an obvious leverage point to disseminate and broaden their impact is the Riverdeep Learning Village (RLV) Web resource (<http://132.198.60.15/lv/admin/login.jsp>). RLV is an online tool, created and maintained by the Vermont Department of Education, that supports educators in creating, storing, and distributing local assessment items, standards-based units, and related resources. Creating a relationship between VT-CITE and RLV will significantly broaden the audience for technology integration resources and will contribute to their sustainability. For more information on Riverdeep Learning Village contact Arlyn Bruccoli at 802-828-0223. Finally, any application for this grant should demonstrate how a sustainable role for the VT-CITE resources and a largely self-sustaining community of technology integration specialists should emerge.

Use of Funds: Grant funds may be used to provide infrastructure, hardware, software, technical support, Web site development and analysis, professional development (minimum of 25% of funds) and evaluation of the effectiveness of technology.

Timeline: Award on January 12, 2007. Funds available January 12, 2007, and grant expiration August 31, 2008.

APPLICATION FORMAT & CONTENT

Provide a narrative of no more than seven (7) pages, single-spaced, font sizes 10-12 point.

- 1. Program Description Narrative** (no more than 3 pages) – Provide a description of the entire program proposed. Create a picture of what a participant in the program should experience, and what educators in the field should see as a result. What kinds of activities will the participant be part of, and what benefits (both short and longer term) should the participant expect through the experience? In addition to this narrative, also include: **(30 Points)**
 - Identification of the specific needs addressed by this project, and the method(s) used to determine those needs
 - A detailed, bulleted list of the major goals of this proposal, accompanied by the specific measure(s) used to determine whether the goal is accomplished or not.
 - How this proposal supports attainment of Vermont’s Framework of Standards, Grade Expectations and/or No Child Left Behind requirements.
 - A description of the professional development experiences in which participants will be engaged.
- 2. Scope of Work** (no more than 1 page) – The scope of work lists the specific, major activities to be undertaken as part of the grant, and identifies the major “deliverables” that will result from this work. From the scope, grant reviewers should be able to approximate where the major expenditures are expected. **(20 Points)**
- 3. Capacity for Success** (no more than 1 page) - Describe why this is an appropriate proposal for the applying organizations. What strengths do the organizations bring that support the goals of the project. Include additional information such as: **(25 Points)**
 - What experiences have contributed to your ability to meet the objectives of this grant?
 - What resources (other than funding), supports, and collaboration, are required to make this initiative a success?
- 4. Evaluation** (no more than 1 page) – **NOTE: A minimum of 5% of the proposed budget must be used to support evaluation.** Describe the process you will follow to evaluate this grant. (We urge you to use “Collaborative Evaluation led by Local Educators” [\[http://www.neirtec.org/evaluation/\]](http://www.neirtec.org/evaluation/) to develop your evaluation plan.) Include such items as: **(15 Points)**
 - The critical questions you want to answer about the impact of your project
 - Who you will involve or work with (within your organization or outside) in order to complete the evaluation
 - Who within the Vermont educational community needs to learn about your evaluation findings and what difference the knowledge might make
 - How you will plan for and collect relevant data.
 - How you will make sense of your findings and use those finding to make improvements.
- 5. Budget Narrative (no more than 1 page): NOTE: You must also complete the ** SEPARATE BUDGET PAGE **.** The budget narrative should demonstrate a logical connection to the goals described (above), and should be specific enough to give reviewers an idea of your priorities and focus for funding. The budget does not need to identify brand names of equipment or include “to the penny” prices. The narrative should include: **(10 Points)**
 - Justification for the major expenditures proposed, especially salaries
 - Explanation of any items on the budget sheet that might not be completely clear to a reader.

CONTACTS AND SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Questions or clarifications:

Bill Romond
Vermont Department of Education
120 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620-2501
bill.romond@state.vt.us
(802) 828-0064

Submission of application:

- **All proposals must include an Original plus TWO (2) copies (Faxed or e-mailed applications will NOT be accepted) with:**
- Proposal Cover Page with superintendent's signature
- Narrative not to exceed SEVEN (7) pages (see instructions above)
- Application Deadline
- Applications must be **RECEIVED** (not postmarked) by the Vermont Department of Education **no later than 4:00 p.m. on January 5, 2007.**
- Mail to:

Title II, Part D Technology Grants - c/o Bill Romond
Vermont State Department of Education
120 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05620-2501

Selection Process: All proposals will be read and reviewed by an independent review panel using the following Criteria table.

SCORING RUBRIC: ENHANCING EDUCATION THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

Criteria	Poor	Average	Excellent
Program Description – Clearly describe the entire program including the experience of participants and what educators in the field should see as a result of the program. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has the experience of a participant been described in detail? Are needs and methods of identification described? Are goals and their measures clearly described? Are links to the Framework, GEs, and/or NCLBA evident? Is the professional development clearly described? 	0 – 11	12 – 23	24 – 30
Program Description – Total Score (Maximum is 30 points):			
Scope of Work – Describe in detail the major activities and deliverables from this grant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are the major grant activities clearly and completely described? Are the products or “deliverables” described and aligned to the goals of this program? 	0 – 7	8 – 15	16 – 20
Scope of Work – Total Score (Maximum is 20 points):			
Capacity for Success – Describe the experiences and strengths of the applying organizations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do the strengths of the applicant organizations align with the goals? Will the experiences of the applicant contribute to project success? Are the resources and supports described reasonable and appropriate? 	0 – 5	6 – 10	11 – 15
Capacity for Success – Total Score (Maximum is 25 points):			
Evaluation – Describe the evaluation process planned including the particular evaluations questioned that will be answered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the evaluation process clearly described? Are the evaluation questions clearly articulated? Are the participants and their roles identified? Is the communication plan for evaluation results clearly described? 	0 – 7	8 – 15	16 – 20
Evaluation – Total Score (Maximum is 15 points):			
Budget Narrative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the budget address the goals? Is justification for major expenditures (especially salaries) reasonable? Explanation of items that won’t be immediately obvious to someone reading your proposal for the first time 	0 – 3	4 – 7	8 – 10
Budget – Total Score (Maximum is 10 points):			
TOTAL SCORE (Maximum is 100 points):	_____		

BUDGET PAGE

Budget (Describe as appropriate)	TOTAL
Professional Development (Minimum 25% of funds)	
Evaluation (Minimum 5% of funds)	
Salary & Wages	
Infrastructure	
Hardware	
Software	
Travel	
Consultants & Contracts	
Teacher Stipends	
Equipment	
Website development	
Other (equipment rental, printing)	
TOTAL	

- Please use Budget Narrative page to elaborate and/or describe further

**Title II, Part D: Enhancing Education Through Technology
Statewide Technology Integration Grant for 2007-08**

APPLICATION COVER PAGE

School District or Supervisory Union				
Contact Person				
Phone				
Fax				
E-mail				
List all partnership organizations that will be part of this project	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Total Funds Requested				
Superintendent's Signature				
Date				